



C W M A M M A N
URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

A N N U A L R E P O R T
of the
M E D I C A L O F F I C E R O F H E A L T H
and the
S A N I T A R Y I N S P E C T O R
for the
Y E A R S 1 9 5 1 a n d 1 9 5 2



Cwmaman Urban District Council,
Council Offices,
Glanamman,
Carmarthen.



ANNUAL REPORT

for the Years 1951 and 1952

To the Chairman and Members of the Owinamman Urban District Council.

Mr. Chairman and Members,

I have the honour to submit to you a combined Annual Report for the years 1951 and 1952.

My Report has been divided into two main sections:-

- (1) Medical Statistics, and
- (2) Sanitary circumstances of the Area.

Part 2 has been written by the Sanitary Inspector and I wish to take this opportunity of thanking him for his help and co-operation in the work of the Health Department.

I also wish to thank the Members of the Council and the Staff for their help and interest at all times.

I have the honour to remain,
Your obedient Servant,

Gladys M. Herbert,
M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.



STATISTICS OF THE AREA

Area of District 756 Acres.

The Registrar-General's Estimate of -

 (a) Resident Population for 1951 ... 4,505.

 (b) Resident Population for 1952 ... 4,443.

Number of Inhabited Houses (1952)
 according to Rate Books 1,223

Rateable Value £11,381

Product of a Penny Rate £40.



VITAL STATISTICS

LIVE BIRTHS -

	1951			1952		
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
Legitimate	26	30	56	35	21	56
Illegitimate	1	1	2	1	0	1
TOTAL	27	31	58	36	21	57

The Birth Rate per 1,000 estimated population -

for Cwmaman U.D. for 1951	-	12.8
" " " " for 1952	-	12.8
" Carmarthenshire for 1952	-	13.98
" England and Wales for 1952	-	15.3

STILL BIRTHS -

	1951			1952		
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
Legitimate	0	1	1	2	1	3
Illegitimate	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL	0	1	1	2	1	3

The Still Birth Rate per 1,000 total births -

for Cwmaman U.D. for 1951	-	16.9
" " " " for 1952	-	50.0
" Carmarthenshire for 1952	-	28.09
" England and Wales for 1952	-	22.6

DEATHS

	1951	1952
Male	36	27
Female	23	33
TOTAL	59	60

The Death Rate per 1,000 estimated population -

for Cwmaman U.D. for 1951	-	13.09
" " " " for 1952	-	13.50
" Carmarthenshire for 1952	-	12.65
" England and Wales for 1952	-	11.3

MATERNAL MORTALITY RATES

There were no Maternal Deaths resulting from Pregnancy or Childbirth during 1951 and 1952

	Cwmaman U.D.		Carm- arthen	England and Wales
	1951	1952		
No. of Deaths	0	0	3	496
Rate per 1,000 total Births	0	0	1.2	0.72



INFANT DEATHS

Deaths of Infants under 1 years of age -

	1951			1952		
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
Legitimate	0	0	0	1	1	2
Illegitimate	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL	0	0	0	1	1	2

NEO-NATAL DEATHS

Deaths of Infants under 4 weeks of age -

	1951			1952		
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
Legitimate	0	0	0	1	0	1
Illegitimate	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	0	0	0	1	0	1

Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000 live births -

	Cwmnaman U.D.		Carm- arthen	England & Wales	London
	1951	1952			
Deaths under 4 weeks	0	17.54	22.20	-	-
Deaths under 1 yr. of age	0	35.08	32.68	27.6	23.8

NUMBER OF DEATHS FROM EACH DISEASE

	1951		1952	
	Male	Female	Male	Female
Tuberculosis - Respiratory	1	2	1	0
" Non - Respiratory	1	0	1	0
Diphtheria	0	0	0	0
Measles	0	0	0	0
Whooping Cough	0	0	0	0
Other Infective and Parasitic Diseases	0	0	1	0
Cancer	4	3	1	8
Diabetes	0	2	0	0
Cerebral Haemorrhage	2	3	2	5
Heart Disease	8	6	7	12
Other Circulatory Diseases	2	1	2	4
Influenza	1	0	0	0
Pneumonia	1	0	0	0
Bronchitis	2	0	2	1
Other Respiratory Diseases	9	0	5	0
Peptic Ulcer	0	0	1	0
Gastritis and Enteritis	0	0	0	1
Nephritis	1	0	0	1
Other Ill-defined Diseases	2	5	4	1
Motor Accidents	1	0	0	0
Other Accidents	1	1	-	-
All Causes	36	23	27	35



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DEATH RATES

	Cwmamman U.D. 1951	1952	Carm- arthen	England & Wales	London
Tuberculosis - Respiratory	0.68	0.23)			
Non-Respiratory	0.22	0.23)	0.26	0.24	0.31
Diphtheria	.00	.00	.00	.00	.00
Other Infectives	.00	0.23			
Cancer	1.55	2.02	1.90		
Diabetes	0.44	.00			
Cerebral Haemorrhage	1.11	1.57			
Heart Disease	3.10	4.27			
Other Circulatory Diseases	0.68	1.35			
Influenza	0.22	.00		0.04	0.05
Pneumonia	0.22	.00	0.33	0.47	0.58
Bronchitis	0.44	.67			
Other Respiratory Diseases	2.04	1.11			
Peptic Ulcer	.00	.23			
Gastritis & Enteritis	.00	.23			
Nephritis	.22	.00			
Other Ill-defined Diseases	1.55	1.11			
Motor Accidents	0.22	.00			
Other Accidents	0.44	.00			
All Causes	13.09	13.50	12.65	11.20	12.60

DEATHS FROM CANCER

Number of Deaths from Cancer -

1951 - Male - 4, Female - 3, Total 7.

1952 - Male - 1, Female - 8, Total 9.

CLASSIFICATION OF DEATHS FROM CANCER

	1951		1952	
	Male	Female	Male	Female
Breast	0	0	0	3
Lung and Bronchus	2	1	1	0
Other Sites	2	2	0	5
Total	4	3	1	8



PREVALENCE OF AID CONTROL OVER
DISEASES OTHER THAN TUBERCULOSIS

Notification received for 1951 - 60
for 1952 - 28

DISEASES	Cwmnaman U.D.		Rate for Cwmnaman U.D. 1952	Rate for England & Wales 1952
	1951	1952		
Scarlet Fever	12	14	3.1	1.53
Whooping Cough	22	2	0.45	2.61
Diphtheria	0	0	.00	.01
Measles	5	6	1.35	8.86
Puerpal Pyrexia	5	6	1.00	17.87
	(per 1,000		still and live	births)
Pneumonia	15	0		
Erysipelas	1	0	-	.14
Acute Polio- myelitis	0	0	-	.09
Typhoid and Para-typhoid	0	0	-	.02
Total	60	28		

PARATYPHOID

Although some cases of this disease occurred in the surrounding area there were none in the Urban.
As there was some risk of infection, food shops in the area were then circularised with a leaflet on the "Safe Handling of Food".

DIPHTHERIA

No cases of Diphtheria occurred in the area in 1951 and 1952. The following children under 15 years of age received immunisation against the disease in 1952:-

32 children, aged 0 - 4 years received a full primary course.

2 children received a re-inforcing injection.

To maintain freedom from this disease it is essential that 75% of the infants under 1 year of age should receive the full course of inoculations from their family Doctor or at the Infant Welfare Clinic held on alternate Wednesdays at Bethesda Vestry, Glanamman.



TUBERCULOSISNEW CASES NOTIFIED

	1951			1952		
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
Respiratory	2	1	3	1	3	4
Non-Respiratory	2	1	3	1	1	2
Total	4	2	6	2	4	6

DEATHS FROM TUBERCULOSIS

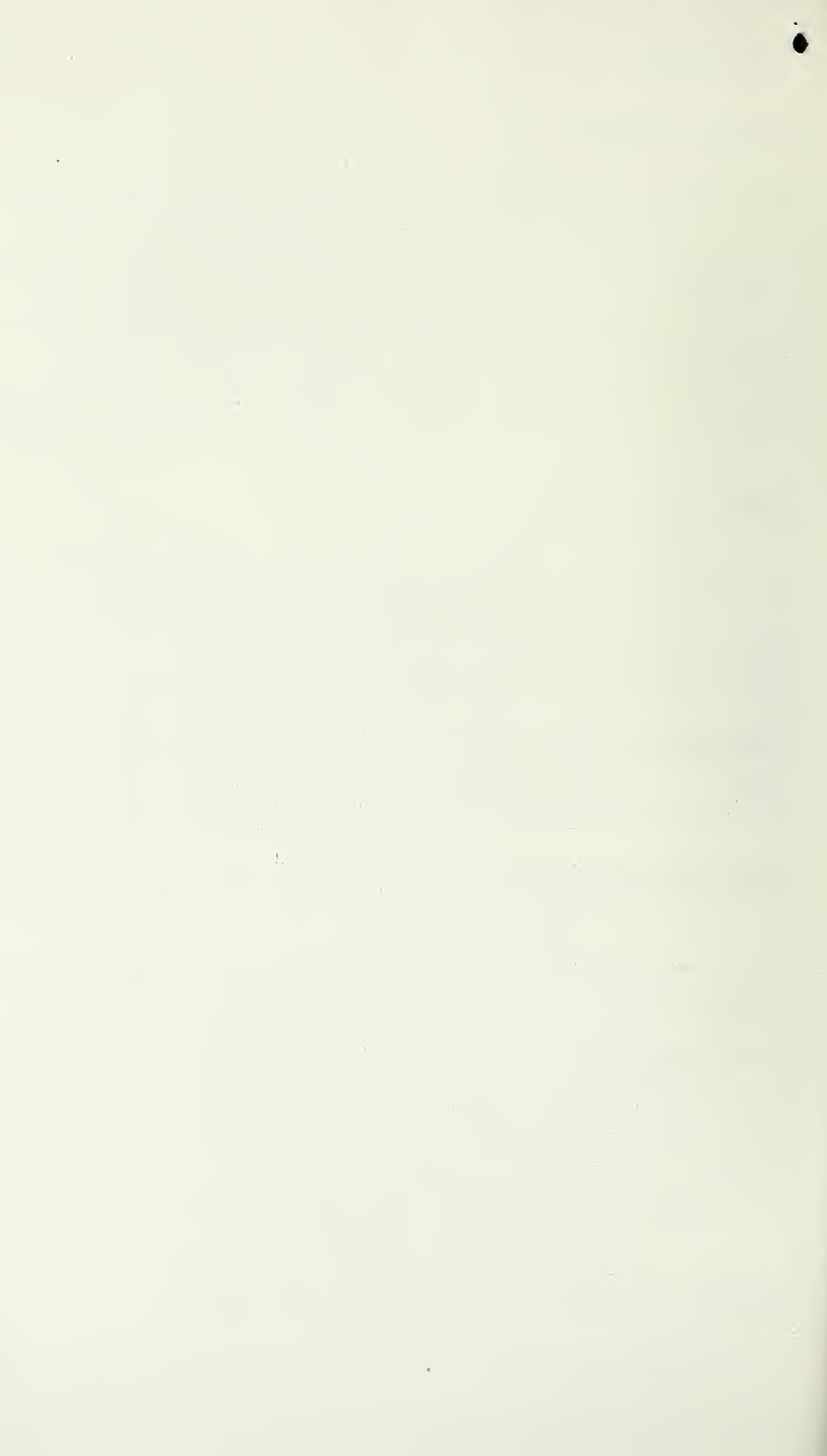
	1951			1952		
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
Respiratory	1	2	3	1	0	1
Non-Respiratory	1	0	1	1	0	1
Total	2	2	4	2	0	2

DEATH RATES FROM TUBERCULOSIS

	1951	1952
Cwmaman UD.	0.9	0.46
Carmarthenshire		0.26
England and Wales		0.24
London		0.31

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948 - Section 47

No action was required under this Act during the year.



P A R T 2

REPORT OF THE SANITARY INSPECTOR
FOR THE YEARS 1951 and 1952

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have very great pleasure in presenting you with my first Annual Report. Most of the substance of this report has been brought to your attention through the monthly meetings of the Roads and Health Committee. However, I have attempted in this Annual Report to summarise the contents of the monthly reports and to provide you with a clear and comprehensive picture of the sanitary circumstances of the area.



1. WATER SUPPLIES

Periodic sampling of the water supply has been carried out and the samples submitted for bacteriological examination and chemical analysis. The results obtained have been consistently good.

TABLE OF ANALYSIS OF SAMPLES
FOR THE YEAR

(a) Chemical Analysis

Number of samples collected ---- 2

Number of samples satisfactory ---- 2

Remarks: The water was of good organic purity, but had certain corrosive properties. This is a normal feature in water which is soft and acid in nature.

(b) Bacteriological Examination

Number of samples collected ----- 6

Number of samples satisfactory ----- 6

Remarks: All samples showed evidence of adequate chlorination. Several complaints were received regarding over-chlorination. It is proposed to keep a check on this by regular testing of the water with an apparatus designed to indicate the quantity of free chlorine present.

2. DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE

20 Statutory Notices were served on owners during 1951 and 1952 requiring them to provide water closets and connect to the Council's sewer, or to renew or repair existing defective drainage systems. 17 of these notices have been complied with. Every effort will be made to secure the conversion of all existing earth and pail closets to water closets.

3. PUBLIC CLEANSING

(a) House Refuse

Despite twice weekly collections of house refuse by the Council's lorry, indiscriminate tipping of refuse is widespread throughout the area. Several householders have been warned and an appeal has been made for co-operation in this matter. It is proposed to erect warning notices on the sites used for indiscriminate dumping.



3. PUBLIC CLEANSING (Continued)

Refuse Tip

Greater attention should be paid to the system of disposal on the Council's own refuse tip near Nouadd Farm. An effort should be made to secure a properly "controlled tip" as recommended by a Ministry of Health circular. The present method of tipping is unsightly, constitutes a nuisance within the meaning of the Public Health Act, 1936 and is a potential danger to health.

(b) Trade Refuse

A scheme for the collection of trade refuse was adopted and put into operation. A charge of One Pound per annum was made on all business premises wishing to avail themselves of this service. During 1952 applications were received from 8 business premises, and the refuse resulting from these businesses is being collected regularly. It is hoped that more premises will make use of this service.

4. RODENT CONTROL

Effective rodent control measures were taken to reduce the rat population and to minimise the risk of disease being spread by these rodents. Food premises were given special attention.

Many food poisoning outbreaks have been attributed to organisms of the salmonella group, contained in rat droppings, which have been in contact with foodstuffs. Only by continual vigilance and treatment can this menace to health be controlled.

Summary of Control Measures

	Type of Property	No. of Inspections	No. of Treatments	No. of Notices	BLOCK TREATMENT		
					No.	No. of Premises	No. of Manholes
1951	L.A. Property	3	4	Nil	-	Nil	-
	Dwelling Houses	2494	1688	"	-	"	-
	Business Premises	188	3	"	-	"	-
	Agricultural	10	5	"	-	"	-
1952	L.A. Property	3	12	Nil	-	"	-
	Dwelling Houses	1303	602	"	-	"	-
	Business Premises	91	6	"	-	"	-
	Agricultural	5	Nil	"	-	"	-



4. RODENT CONTROL (Continued)

Besides the normal routine work carried out as scheduled above there was a twice yearly maintenance treatment of sewers. The table below shows the progress made in reducing the rat population in the sewers.

	September 1951	March 1952	September 1952
No. of Manholes Baited	116	113	139
Manholes showing Pre-bait take	57	44	19
Complete pre-bait taken	23	16	2

5. INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Terminal disinfection of premises from which cases of infectious disease had been notified were promptly dealt with. In most cases the premises were fumigated with formaldehyde and the occupiers supplied with sufficient disinfectant to wash out the room or rooms. They were advised on the precautionary measures to be adopted.

6. FACTORIES

12 inspections of Factories in the area were carried out and only in the case of one factory was it necessary to take informal action, as a result of which the necessary works were carried out.

In the case of another factory a Certificate of Escape in case of fire was issued after inspection and consultation with the Fire Brigade Service.



7. HOUSING:

The Council continued in its attempt to ease the housing situation by the erection of Council Houses. The picture at the end of 1952 is tabulated below:-

No of new houses occupied in 1952	-	24
No. of houses under construction but which were not occupied up to 31st December, 1952	-	6
No. of houses owned by the Council and which were occupied prior to 1st January, 1952.	-	98

No licences were issued by the Council for the erection of new dwelling houses.

(a) Number of Families requiring Housing Accommodation

During 1952 there were 105 families on the Housing List. All these cases were investigated in accordance with the requirements of the "Points Scheme". Some of the really bad cases were rehoused but the 81 cases still remaining on the Housing List contained families who were living in desperate conditions.

(b) Individual Unfit Houses

Action was taken against owners of dwelling houses or sections of dwelling houses which were unfit for human habitation, and which could not be rendered fit in all respects at a reasonable cost.

ANALYSIS OF ACTION TAKEN UNDER
THE HOUSING ACT, 1936

	Address	Nature of Action	Results
1	26, Cwmaman Road, Gernant.	Closing Order on part of premises	Closing Order made.
2	37a, Brynllloi Road, Glanamman	Closing Order on part of premises	Closing Order made.
3	1, Brynoethin Road, Gernant.	Demolition Order	Undertaking that house would not be used for human habitation.



7. HOUSING (Continued)

	Address	Nature of Action	Results
4	1, Cwmamman Road, Garnant	Demolition Order	Undertaking from owner to render house fit for human habitation
5.	24, Hool Amman, Glanamman.	Demolition Order	Undertaking from owner to render house fit for human habitation
6	267, Cwmamman Road, Garnant.	Demolition Order	Undertaking from owner that the house would not be used for human habitation
7	Manchester House, Garnant.	Demolition Order	Undertaking that the house would not be used for human habitation.

In the case of (5) above the owner contravened the terms of the undertaking and the Council subsequently made a Demolition Order on the premises. An appeal was made by the owner to the County Court, where the Judge suspended the Demolition Order on receiving an undertaking from the owner that he would complete the scheduled works.

In (7) above the difficulty in demolishing a house in a terrace was brought to the notice of the Council. This particular house in question is attached on both sides to sub-standard houses, which should be kept vacant when the present tenants are rehoused. The Council would be then well advised to make this whole site comprising about 6 houses into a Clearance Area in accordance with the requirements of section 23 of the Housing Act, 1936.

(c) Repair of Existing Houses

Property owners generally were very loath to repair property owned by them and out of 32 informal notices served only 7 were complied with. Statutory Notices had to be served on the remainder and this brought better results. Out of 61 Statutory Notices served, 53 were complied with.

Court proceedings were instituted in 2 cases and a Nuisance Order was obtained in both cases. 6 owners had to be threatened with Police Court action before they attempted to execute the specified repairs.



FOOD AND DRUGS(a) Meat:

During 1952 the Minister of Food brought out a revised memorandum on the inspection of meat, which he hoped would be adopted by every Local Authority. All home killed meat retailed in the area is obtained from the Blandilo Urban District Council where it is inspected prior to distribution. However, it is still important that meat on sale should be inspected when necessary in accordance with the revised memorandum.

3 Butcher's shops were inspected and these were found to be in a satisfactory condition.

(b) Milk:

Routine sampling of milk was carried out and vendors were constantly supervised whilst delivering milk to ascertain that no contamination of the supplies was taking place. There were 12 retailers on the register at the end of 1952. A number of the retailers are now only selling Tuberculin Tested and Pasteurised milk in bottles. Raw, ungraded milk is still being retailed direct from the churn, and it is encouraging to note that samples taken from such a source were generally of an excellent standard. The days of this method, however, are numbered, and within the next few years the churn in the hands of the vendor will disappear altogether. Legislation demands that all milk be retailed in properly capped bottles, that it must be a Tuberculin Tested milk, or that it must have undergone some form of heat treatment.

ANALYSIS OF SAMPLES

Type of Milk	No. of Samples	Number Satisfactory	Number Unsatisfactory
Pasteurised	2	1	1
Ungraded raw Milk	9	9	0

(c) Ice-Cream:

Most retailers have now finished manufacturing their own ice-cream, due to the high cost of equipment required to comply with the Heat Treatment Regulations, 1947, and have turned to the sale of pre-packed ice-cream. There are only two manufacturers of ice-cream in the area and their plant and preparation rooms are periodically inspected.

The results of the samples taken have not been good and every effort has been made to impress both on manufacturers and retailers the need for exercising greater attention to the hygienic aspect of manufacturing, storing and handling.



8. FOOD AND DRUGS (Continued)

(c) Ice-Cream:

ANALYSIS OF SAMPLES

No. of Samples taken	:	7
No. of Samples in Grade I.	:	1
" " " " Grade II.	:	1
" " " " Grade III	:	2
" " " " Grade IV	:	3

(d) Licensed Premises:

8 premises in the area were inspected in accordance with the requirements of Section 13, Food and Drugs Act, 1938 and the Public Health Act, 1936:

Number of houses with H. & C. water in Bar	:	7
Number of houses without H. & C. water in bar	:	1
Number of houses with sufficient closets for both sexes	:	6
Number of houses without sufficient closets for both sexes	:	2
Number of houses in which informal action had to be taken for contraventions of the relevant legislation	:	8

(e) Miscellaneous Food Premises

Routine inspections of food premises were carried out. Conditions generally were not up to the required standard, but it is hoped that shopkeepers will co-operate with the Local Authority in bringing their premises up to the specified standard without the Authority having to resort to legal action. The following foodstuffs were condemned as unfit for human consumption:-

Meat and Offal	-	Decomposition	-	103 lbs.
Tinned Meat	-	Decomposition	-	15½ lbs.
Tinned Fruit	-	Blown and damaged	-	55 tins.
Tomato Soup	-	Blown and Damaged	-	45 tins.
Tinned Tomato	-	Blown and Damaged	-	40 tins.



9. CONCLUSION:

Despite the limited time that can be paid to the various branches of Public Health work in this area, some progress has been made. The primary function of a Health Department is to educate and advise the public in matters relating to environmental hygiene. The measure of success that can be credited any Health Department depends on the co-operation it receives from the public generally. It is hoped that this factor will be realised and that this co-operation will be forthcoming. Only then can it be possible to provide the inhabitants of this Urban Area with healthy surroundings.

I wish to thank the Medical Officer of Health for her interest and help in problems relating to Public Health, and to the other members of the staff for their ready co-operation and assistance.

I am,

Your obedient Servant,

J. Gerwyn Howlands.
M.S.I.A., Cert. of R. San. I.

SANITARY INSPECTOR.



